

The Washington Times

Entered as second class matter at the Post-office at Washington, D. C.

Published Every Evening (Including Sundays) By The Washington Times Company, MURPHY BUILDING, Pennsylvania Avenue.

FRANK A. MUNSEY, President
R. H. TITHERTON, Secretary
FRED A. WALKER, Treasurer

One Year (Including Sundays), \$1.50
Six Months, \$1.00
Three Months, 50c.

TUESDAY, APRIL 24, 1917.

Time for the Firing Squad

Emercy dust placed in the bearings of the engine stopped work at the Springfield arsenal from Saturday until Monday. A mysterious explosion as the week begins destroys a munition plant on the Jersey meadows. It is high time that some of the Teutonic agents responsible for these "accidents" were caught and summarily tried and executed. We need to impress upon the unfriendly strangers within our gates that we know we are at war.

Stone and Conscript

Even when Stone is in favor of a good measure he tries to pair his speech with his vote. In announcing his support of the selective draft bill in the Senate he endeavored to throw suspicion upon a group of nineteen of his constituents in one town who had sent him telegrams favoring it, as though there were some mysterious and sinister influence at work upon their minds. Perhaps the Senator has learned by bitter experience the worthlessness of the German-American Alliance propaganda which he imagined represented the will of the American people. The theory does not seem to have occurred to him that these constituents of Malden, Mo., were just plain American patriots who got together and agreed that the effort to set their erring Senator right on a great public issue was worth trying. Still, we wonder why the unenunciation of such methods of propaganda was never made among hyphenate Americanism.

Warlike Conservation

Shots were necessary the other day, according to a story from Connecticut, to halt the manager of an oil refinery, who insisted on driving his automobile past the sentry at the gate. On Sunday night, in Kearny, N. J., the oil tanks at another refinery caught fire and burned up, with a loss of thousands of gallons. No doubt the oil man who tried to snub the sentry in one case feels highly indignant at the failure of the sentries to furnish effective protection in the other.

He offers a good example of the man who fails to realize his share in the present general duty of conserving national resources. There seldom was a time when a granary burned or a powder mill blown up meant such direct personal loss to each one. The loss of grain would mean a rise in the cost of wheat and of bread. The destruction of a powder mill would mean perhaps millions of dollars of construction work to be done over again, intensifying the demand for labor when that essential is already lacking, notably on the farms.

Every bit of damage, waste or other useless loss is harm, with the country's internal economy under such strain as that of war. Each one is concerned and each should do his share in guarding against damage and waste, not only damage by incendiaries but waste by carelessness, extravagance, or idleness, whether it be waste of food, materials, or labor.

Aggravating Injustice

Instead of improving matters, the War Department has made them worse by announcing that while no more candidates for admission to the Officers' Reserve Corps will be examined until they have taken three months' training at an instruction camp, without pay, commissions will be issued to those who have already passed their examinations.

All candidates for the Officers' Reserve Corps should be received at Plattsburg and the other training camps on an absolutely even footing. Either all are entitled to tentative commissions, subject to revocation in case of development of marked disqualifications, or all should enter without any individual recommendations whatever. In view of the kind of men stipulated for by the Government, the only fair way is to issue the tentative commissions to all applicants to the Officers' Reserve Corps and pay them while in training at the rates prescribed for the grades to which they are admitted.

The Government pays for the education of cadets at West Point and Annapolis; yet the Government demands that applicants for the Officers' Reserve Corps donate, before they may take the prescribed three months' course, not only the cost of a college education, or an equivalent in experience, but whatever positions they have established for themselves since graduation. Were similar sacrifices demanded of all American citizens indiscriminately there could be no proper objection. So long, however, as the great majority of American citizens will make no personal sacrifice for the organization of the Officers' Reserve Corps they should not object to compensating students for reserve corps examinations in the same manner as mili-

tary and naval cadets—although much less fully, as the payment would work out in application. Congress should pass without delay a bill providing for proper pay for applicants to the Officers' Reserve Corps while they are in training.

Distinguished Visitors to America

Mr. Balfour and his party, and, presently, General Joffre heading the French mission, are the latest of a long line of distinguished visitors to the United States from abroad, coming to us on various errands, educational, social, and political, though the importance of the present delegations easily outweighs that of all the others.

Lafayette's visit, after the French revolution, in which he became a distinguished character, had succeeded the American Revolution, in which he also played an important part, was one continued ovation. The news dispatches of a day or two ago noted the death of a centenarian lady who was probably the last to lay claim to the honor of having danced with Lafayette. In the cause of liberty Garibaldi and Louis Kossuth both visited our shores. Among Frenchmen Louis Philippe, Jerome Bonaparte, Talleyrand, and De Joinville are to be mentioned. The Grand Duke Alexis of Russia came on a semi-political errand, following the period of Russia's friendliness toward the Union in the war between the States. The visit of Prince Henry of Prussia is still fresh in our minds, and is generally coupled in thought with the gift of the statue of Frederick the Great, both incidents occurring when Germany was seeking a rapprochement with the United States. Among Englishmen two who were afterward to be Kings of England, visited America, William the Fourth, during the Revolutionary war, and Edward the Seventh, while he was Prince of Wales. Mr. Balfour himself has been to this country before, and Count Zeppelin was here during the civil war.

But the mere mention of these names is sufficient to show that the present English and French mission is unique in the history of the United States. They have come not from friendly nations merely, but from our allies in the great war. In the league of nations which will follow the treaty of peace doubtless many similar delegations of distinguished men will go from the United States to Europe, and will come from Europe and Asia to America.

The best patriotism, so far as food goes, is that which leads to the use of the diet best adapted to produce healthy Americans. It may be made up of dishes prepared according to recipes gathered from Constantinople, Vienna, Paris, and points west. But surely American dishes ought not to be ruled off the table, when they would justify their place there in point of wholesomeness and in flavor.

Hotel and restaurant managers have announced that meat and vegetables prepared in the native fashion will be more in evidence here in the future. That is good news. Scrupulous, fried mush, and plain dishes of carrots, spinach and cabbage are to be featured.

It goes without saying—but there's no harm in saying it—that the essential condition of good fare is a good cook. That is true alike in restaurant and in home kitchen. If all the present talk of economy and effectiveness in procuring and preparing food should lead to a revival of interest in the training of our daughters in the best traditions as well as the best of the newer methods of cooking, it will be abundantly worth while.

The Kaiser may now consider himself beyond the pale. Colonel Roosevelt refers to the time when William "was a white man," and the New York Yacht Club considers their royal member no longer a fit associate for gentlemen.

The American break with Turkey really dated from last Thanksgiving Day. If the American people could conscript their best men for Congress we should not have so many beneficiaries and advocates of the volunteer system.

The date is still unsettled when Hindenburg will take his dinner in Berlin.

The acquittal of District Attorney Marshall by the Supreme Court will encourage other free-born citizens to express their contempt of Congress upon occasion.

American citizens who are sending telegrams to Congress favoring conscription are themselves volunteers.

Now that Mr. Bryan denounces present-day pacifists as slackers, perhaps even Oswald Garrison Villard will be good.

The majority report on the volunteer-conscription bill was evidently designed on the wobbly-wobbly plan of shooting so as to miss a kill and kill a deer.

The new Sing Sing rule barring night-schools ought to be a real help to circus, theater, and other entertainment enterprises.

Don Marquis' Column

No matter what pressure is brought upon us we shall still resist coupling the disaffected Hungars of Austria with the disaffected Hungars of Prussia.

Balfour Party Lands Safely.—Headline.

And Haig and Nivelle are landing gloriously day after day.

Soliloquy.

I hear a deep sound swelling and rising—

Like the feet of little children.

The feet of drooping women.

The march, march, march of unnumbered armies.

They are ghosts of the dead!

I see nothing through the dark in the window.

I hear the plash of rain on the flag—

On the roof a heavy patter.

And through the leafless trees streams are falling.

Till the very earth is drenched.

But there is no rain!

It is the tears of weeping women.

I hear fierce curses from the cripples.

Shrieks from the blind and bleeding.

Moans from the mangled, the faceless.

And there come curses loud and deep

From madmen stretching their thin arms

Between the bars.

My God! who, which, was my god . . .

Jehovah, Ahirman, Loki or Moloch? —P. T. S.

Says the writer of a letter to The Times:

"The universe must be four dimensional."

Many of us have known that for a long time, but pretty soon we'll have to pretend we don't believe it.

Prohibition is coming—nearer and nearer.

A Comment and a Prophecy.

AN INSCRIPTION FOR THE TOMBS OF THE HOHENZOLLERNS.

Here lie the ally Sabre-Foam who sought,

Drunk with the dream of Attila, to bind

The world in fetters. Now they are

But dust blown down the wind.

Yet did the world see

Ere it was set free

Pareit Nietzsche's blood

Washing with bitter blood

The feet of Liberty. —P. T. S.

If a man volunteers to undergo any

test to prove he isn't inebriated, he is

Who but an inebriated person would

try to prove he wasn't.

Contributors who must pen poems to

the letters explaining what the poems

are about are requested to use safety

pins in the future. We go through

our mail rather impetuously, and the

old style regulation pins have ruined

a whole handful of our fingers during

the past week.

Night in Kampala.

The sun has sought the velvet arms

of night

And gone to rest. The soft West

wind sighs by.

The palm trees quiver in the waning

light.

One little star peeps shyly from the

sky.

The birds have ceased their galaxy of

song

And still is every tiny feathered

throat.

Now flashes bright the merry, starry

throne.

And rises now the cricket's quick-

ening note.

Deep in the marsh the bullfrog joins

his cries—

To those of countless toads that

louder grow;

The hum of insects rises to the skies,

And time throbs on with measured

beat and slow.

All silent in the town the gay bazaars

Save where the crabbéd merchants

two or three

Count over in the dim light of the

stars.

The profits of the day and usury,

Within a small grass hut a native boy

Upon a harp plays low with tireless

hand.

A woman croons a simple song of joy,

And melody and dream are in the

hour.

The Afric night steals softly o'er my

soul.

I shut my eyes and let my thoughts

go roam.

Knowing well that they will seek a

cherished goal

And lead me back to long ago—and

home! —Edmund Leamy.

Turning from war to the more se-

rious matters of life, Anonymus

Scout 7 totters from his motorcycle

to report that Mme. A. Flance makes

bridal trousseaus.

"Do you suppose," asks Panda, "that

this could be a collateral relative of

Judge Learned Hand?" and slips up a

clipping from the Columbia (N. Y.)

Republican which avers:

"Worthy Finger spent Saturday in

Albany." —DON MARQUIS.

GERMAN LEADS MEXICANS

Providence Journal Says Carranza's

Artillery Is Under Teuton.

Carranza's artillery is under the

command of a German who is in con-

stant communication with German of-

ficials, and new guns are being man-

ufactured in Mexico and sent up for

defense both of Vera Cruz and Salina

Cruz, according to the Providence

Journal today.

This information, with other sensa-

tional disclosures, is contained in a

letter now in the possession of the

Journal, which that paper prints in

full.

The communication from Gen. Max-

imilian Klaus to his parents in Ger-

many was inclosed with correspond-

ence from the Imperial consulate in

Mexico City to the foreign office in

Berlin. It was addressed under sepa-

rate cover to F. Gersdorff, Copen-

hagen, and the envelope was indorsed

by G. Schadt, 11 Broadway, New York,

according to the Journal.

The writer tells of his rapid promo-

tion, the successful operation of car-

riage and gun factories, the setting

up of new guns in the harbors, and of

a trip to the United States to pur-

chase war material. He proudly tells

of being on very friendly terms with

the German minister, and of a prom-

ise that at the end of the war he is

to be sent to Berlin on a mission.

LETTERS TO TIMES FROM ITS READERS

Says Only Way to Get Rid of White House Pickets Is to Grant Women Ballot.

TO TIMES READERS

The Times is receiving great numbers of letters from its readers.

No communication which does not carry the name and address of the contributor will be used, but both will be considered confidential if request is made.

Publication will not be made of letters on untimely subjects or religious questions. It will not publish abusive personal attacks nor criticism which The Times deems unwarranted by the facts as it knows them.

No record is kept of unpublished letters and none will be returned unless postage is inclosed.

To the Editor of THE TIMES:

Will you grant me the hospitality of your columns to tell some of our readers how to get rid of the White House pickets?

There is only one proper and effective way, and that is to pass the Susan B. Anthony amendment, which will release the energy and money for war duty or whatever is important. Some persons are in error and believe there is a personality or individuality in the picket line. There is neither. The picket line is the recruiting cause that stands there, and will remain until something better takes its place. Consider the procession of States coming on.

Alice Paul, since Napoleon, has had no peer as a general, and is as ravenously hungry as he for the victorious idea. If any one can show Alice Paul how to gain back more on the battle line for woman's freedom than by picketing, she will be very welcome, but if she is not, nor can not do anything more efficient, she should "keep her mouth shut."

We who have been persecuted by our accidental bosses—not our superiors—have had the belief in equal suffrage treated as if it were a crime, had our careers broken, have come to think that masculine autocracy is as wrong and arbitrary as the throned autocracy of Europe—and like it, it tards the human race; therefore, it is doomed. —CARRIE HARRISON.

Brookland, D. C.

Says Compulsory Universal Military Service Measure Is Only Compulsory, and Not Universal.

To the Editor of THE TIMES:

My objection to the proposed "compulsory, universal, military service" measure is that it is compulsory, but it is not universal.

The idea is to draft all "men" between the ages of twenty and twenty-five.

What is there "universal" about that?

Also, what right have adult men, safely above the age limit themselves, to force boys to do their fighting for them?

I am too logical and too American to see any justice or "democracy" in that Prussian-like proposal.

S. T. EBERLY.

The "Kultur'd Kaiser"

To the Editor of THE TIMES:

That person who claims to stand in the place of God is a fool.

That person who teaches that Ger-

man "Kultur" is above everything in this world.

That person who has trained a nation to get upon its knees before that

idol, Kaiser, and in order to compel the human intellect to obey his bidding has trained a nation to

trample reason, humanity, and justice under foot. And that nation has

covered Prussia with training camps and arsenals; and that nation went into partnership with two other

tyrants, the arrogant Austrian and the bloody Turk (all whose object

is the same and that is the destruction of "Intellectual Liberty"). These

three tyrants have plunged all of Europe into a bloody war, and made

of it a slaughter house, and the peace of the world was destroyed. Thou-

sands and millions have perished, and if all the bones of all the victims of

this "Kultur'd Kaiser" could be gathered together a monument higher

than the Pyramids would rise in our presence and the eyes of even the

Kaiser himself, would be wet with

tears.

The "Kultur" that these ty-

rants have imposed upon the Ger-

manic people and tried to impose upon the world has been spurned by

democracy and the democratic world is arrayed against it, and to crush it lest liberty perish, from the earth. —J. R. HORNE.

Thanks The Times for Space Given

Benefit Arranged by Eastern High

School Alumni.

To the Editor of THE TIMES:

In view of the great pressure upon

your columns by events of interna-

tional importance, allow